

The
Life-Light
blazed
out of the darkness;



the darkness couldn't
Put it out.

WORSHIP OF GOD | JANUARY 5, 2024
SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

First Rochester | An American Baptist Church

175 Allens Creek Road | Rochester, New York 14618 | rochesterfbc.org
Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon, senior pastor | Eliecia Young, pastoral assistant
Henry Griffin, music director | Samuel Baker, organist

Scripture *John 1:1-18, parts, The Message*

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon *Our Best Intentions* Rev. Joanne
Gilbert-Cannon

Giving our Gifts and Intentions to God with Prayer

Music for *It Came Upon A Midnight Clear* arr. J.H.Schaffner
Response Samuel Baker, organ

Invitation to the Lord's Table Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon
Eliecia Young, assisting
We observe an open communion, all are welcome at the table.

Words of Institution

Unison Lord's Prayer

The Great Feast *Ave Maria* Charles Gounod adapted to
Emma Unkrich, mezzo; First Prelude of J.S. Bach
Samuel Baker, organ

***Parting Hymn 716** *God Be With You* Rankin/Tomer
v. 1-3

Benediction



Thank you to others who contributed their gifts today: including reader:
Marcia McCarthy; ushers: Dick and Judy Wien; fellowship: Dara and Ron Lewis; our
nursery: Melina Mineti, Dara Lewis; our teachers: Nan Wilson, Betsy Vipperman; our
tech team: Scott and Susen McClellan, Glenn Stahl, and Janet Richardson; and our
musicians: Emma Unkrich,, mezzo-soprano; Samuel Baker, organist.



We welcome you to First Rochester, regardless of race, class, gender, physical challenge, place of origin, or sexual orientation. **If you're new with us**, please fill out the **connection card** found in your pew and drop it with the offering. We look forward to getting to know you better!

Removing the Greens: Join us as we take down the greens of the church quickly after worship today and get them put away for the year. We could use your help as many hands make light work!

OWLS (Older Wiser Learning Seniors) will return to their Thursday program on January 9 with an introduction to a book discussion series on *80 Days Around the World* by Jules Verne. Each 1st Thursday for the next several months we will look at one of Phileas Fogg's destinations. Chair exercise at 11:30 AM. Lunch and program at 12:15 PM. Donations welcomed. Please RSVP kandeetabor@gmail.com.

Are you an officer, chairperson, or do you convene a group at First Rochester? If yes, please submit a short report (one page or less) about your activities during 2024 for the Annual Report (electronically please) no later than Sunday, January 5, 2025.

Book Study Wednesday evenings in January and February: Join us as we read and discuss Executive Director of the Baptist Joint Committee, Amanda Tyler's book, *How to End Christian Nationalism*. Our first Wednesday night will be January 22 from 6:30 – 7:30 PM on Zoom. If you would like a book through the church for \$20, please see Pastor Joanne, Eliecia, or Janet.

FBCR Book Club will meet again on January 21 at 11:30 AM and will discuss *I Feel Bad About My Neck: And Other Thoughts on Being a Woman* by Nora Ephron.

Mark your calendar for the Annual Meeting of the First Baptist Church and Society to be held on **January 26, 2025**, following worship. The items which are required by NYS law to declare in advance for a Congregational Meeting are: vote on our 2025 Budget, recently updated Bylaws, and votes on the Board of Trustees nominees: Scott McCellan, second 3-year term and Ken Hines, first 3-year term. Other officers and chairpersons who will sit on the Church Council the church will also receive a vote. Annual Reports will be available on Sunday, January 19.

For information on the mission and ministry of the church, please visit our website at rochesterfbc.org.